

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER BRENDAN CARR**

Re: *Toll Free Assignment Modernization*, WC Docket No. 17-192; *Toll Free Service Access Codes*, CC Docket No. 95-155

Today's Notice highlights the very rare intersection between Nobel Prize-winning economist Ronald Coase, best known as the father of FCC spectrum auctions, and Tommy Tutone, the 1980s pop band best known for their hit "867-5309." The latter shows us that memorable numbers have value, and the former teaches that the FCC should examine the most efficient way of distributing them.

One approach involves auctioning off high-demand, toll-free numbers. Now, this idea is not new. The Clinton Administration proposed assigning toll-free numbers by auction over 20 years ago. In the intervening time, the Commission has learned a lot about conducting auctions. So I am glad that we are exploring this issue again. I am also pleased that we seek comment on how we can use the revenues from an auction to help offset or reduce the costs that consumers and businesses ultimately bear for toll-free number administration. I look forward to examining the record and ensuring that we reach the best result for all stakeholders.